

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**I.     Status of the Claims**

Claims 1 and 6 are currently canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 2, 3 and 8 were previously canceled.

Claim 5 is amended without the introduction of new matter.

Claims 4-5, 7, and 9-19 are pending.

**II.    Acknowledgment of Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the acknowledgment of allowable subject matter in claims 4, 5, 7, and 9-19. Claims 1 and 6 have been canceled and remaining claims are in condition for allowance.

**III.    Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Wierlacher in view of the Examiner's statement based on case law. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 6 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

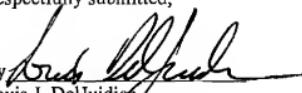
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below if the Examiner believes any issue can be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment.

Dated: May 14, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Louis J. DelJudeice  
Registration No.: 47,522  
DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
P.O. Box 5257  
New York, New York 10150-5257  
(212) 527-7700  
(212) 527-7701 (Fax)  
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant